

SENATE BILL 391  
By Fowler

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, relative to the issuance of special license plates for supporters of Shriners Orthopedic Hospitals and Burn Institutes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-202(c)(3), is amended by adding a new item thereto, as follows:

( ) Supporters of Shriners Orthopedic Hospitals and Burn Institutes;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-203, is amended by adding a new item thereto, as follows:

( ) Supporters of Shriners Orthopedic Hospitals and Burn Institutes - twenty-five dollars (\$25.00);

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

(a) Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of the state of Tennessee, upon complying with state motor vehicle laws relating to registration and licensing of motor vehicles, and paying the regular fee applicable to the motor vehicle and the fee provided for in § 55-4-203, shall be issued a supporter of Shriners Orthopedic Hospitals and Burn Institutes special license plate, either for an automobile, or a truck of one-half (1/2) or three-quarter (3/4) ton rating.

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(b) The special plates provided for in this section shall be issued in conformity with the provisions of § 55-4-202, and shall be designed in consultation with the boards of directors of the Shriners Orthopedic Hospitals and Burn Institutes and the department of safety. The special plates shall include a unique identifying number, whereby the total characters do not exceed the sum of seven (7); provided, that no two (2) recipients shall receive identical plates.

(c) (1) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to mean that any eligible person shall be prevented from exchanging a regular type plate for one (1) of special design; provided, that the fees prescribed under § 55-4-203 are paid.

(2) The whole or parts of the fee for a special registration plate shall not be refunded for the exchange of a regular plate.

(d) Additional special license plates may be obtained by any eligible person upon payment of the regular license fee for plates, as prescribed under § 55-4-111, plus the payment of the fee prescribed in § 55-4-203.

(e) (1) Special license plates issued pursuant to this section may be transferred to another vehicle of the same weight class owned or leased by the same person upon proper application being made therefor and approved by the department of safety.

(2) It is unlawful for any person to whom such plates have been issued to knowingly permit them to be displayed on any vehicle, except such as authorized by the department.

(f) (1) The funds derived from the sale of such supporters of Shriners Orthopedic Hospitals and Burn Institutes special license plates, less the expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be deposited in a special fund in the general fund to be used exclusively for orthopedic care and treatment of handicapped children and medical care for children who have been severely burned. The commissioner of health shall make grants from moneys available in the special fund to the Alhambra Transportation Fund

and the Alhambra Crippled Children's Fund to defray the costs of such medical care provided at the Shriners Orthopedic Hospitals and Burn Institutes and transportation costs associated with such medical care.

(2) There is hereby established a general fund reserve to be allocated by the general appropriations act which shall be known as the Children's Orthopedic Care and Burn Treatment Endowment Fund. Moneys from the fund may be expended to fund activities authorized by this section. Any revenues deposited in this reserve shall remain in the reserve until expended for purposes consistent with this subsection, and shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30. Any excess revenues or interest earned by such revenues shall not revert on any June 30, but shall remain available for appropriation in subsequent fiscal years. Any appropriation from such reserve shall not revert to the general fund on any June 30, but shall remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years.

(3) All funds derived from the renewal of the plates described in this section or from any new issues of such plates in subsequent fiscal years, less any expense the state has incurred in designing and manufacturing such plates, shall be distributed as earmarked in this section.

(g) The department shall not implement the provisions of this section unless at least one hundred (100) registration plates are ordered pursuant to the provisions of this section.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.